SUPPLEMENT

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THE EFFICIENCY OF THE NATIONAL INSURANCE MEDICAL SERVICE.

ADDRESS BY DR. BRACKENBURY TO APPROVED SOCIETY SECRETARIES.

AT a meeting of the Incorporated Association of Approved Society Secretaries, held in London on November 2nd, Dr. H. B. BRACKENBURY, Chairman of Council of the British Medical Association, delivered an address on "The efficiency of the national insurance medical service." Mr. T. P. PEARCE, chairman of the London Centre of the Incorporated Association, presided over an audience which included some of the most prominent figures in approved society organization.

Dr. Brackenbury, who had been introduced as "the protagonist of the British Medical Association," said that he did not fill any such role that evening. He proposed to discuss, in a non-controversial spirit, some of the matters on which approved societies and the medical profession had to work together. He was taking it for granted that an insurance medical service was a good thing in itself, although, of course, efficiency—the word used in his title—might equally characterize a thing bad in itself. By what standard, then, should the efficiency of the medical service be judged? Not, certainly, by the standard of an ideal medicine. Medicine, in its art and science, was by no means ideal. It had many imperfections; there were many gaps in its knowledge; it included some survivals, good things in their time, but now outworn. In a word, it was like every other sphere of art or life of similar width. The actual practice of medicine also, apart from the imperfections of the science or art in itself, had not reached an ideal level. It was not to be expected that all those concerned would be always working at the highest pitch of efficiency. Allowance must be made for varieties of human nature and circumstance. Therefore the efficiency of the insurance medical service should not be measured by some ideal condition which did not in fact exist, but by what was actually attained in comparable branches of the profession or in some cognate service. There were three branches of medical service with which the insurance medical service might rightly be compared—namely, the work of specialists, hospital work (especially that of the out-patient department), and the private practice of the family doctor. Those who were working the insurance service on its administrative side had the right to expect that the medical service should be equal to the standard set up in these other branches, and in his own judgement the insurance medical service was as efficient as any of them.

Take the work of specialists. Here there was just as much variation in efficiency, knowledge, and skill as in any other branch of the profession. There were specialists who were first class in every possible respect, and others, with equal claims on paper, whose work was not quite of the same order. Specialist work, while it contained a great deal that was most excellent, had an admixture that was less satisfactory, owing to slightly less knowledge, competence, or experience, perhaps to minor defects of character, or to various economic and other circumstances into which it was not necessary to go. The out-patient department of hospitals—which was in some senses, though not in others, comparable with the insurance medical service—was, again, a field in which a vast amount of good work was done; but it had its faults and inadequacies, which must have come home to those present. He had known, for instance, patients who had been attending out-patient departments for years at regular intervals of a fortnight or a month, and, except on the first occasion, had never had a medical examination. He was making no accusation against out-patient departments any more than against specialists, but he remembered his own experience, many years ago, as resident medical officer in a special hospital in London. He remembered how, particularly at evening sessions in the out-patient department, the first few patients would be examined with the utmost interest and thoroughness, and then the porter would come in to say that there were a hundred others who must be seen that evening, so that at a certain stage one began to do each patient less than justice, though, he trusted, no serious injustice.

The private practice of the family doctor, again, offered a parallel to the insurance service. The great bulk of practitioners of this class were of a very high type, and did their work most conscientiously, but there were others who were rather less conscientious, for example, about accepting patients when their practice was already so busy that such patients were not likely to receive the full attention which every doctor wanted to give. There were differences between practitioners also in respect to knowledge, to their acquaintance with modern discoveries in medicine, and in other ways. In private practice, again, there were times of stress, due to local epidemics, when the most conscientious practitioner had to give less than the service he would desire to give to the individual patient. Judged by all these standards, Dr. Brackenbury believed personally that, on the whole, the insurance medical service

was rather higher than the others in its general level of efficiency, though this, of course, was not capable of proof. He feared that the tendency was for those he was addressing to have brought to their attention the imperfections of the service rather than its excellencies. The work which an insurance doctor did over and above any legal requirement was not likely to reach the approved society official, whereas any lapse or delinquency was reported.

Dr. Brackenbury passed on to consider any dangers inherent in the insurance medical service which tended to depreciate or hamper its efficiency or prevent its further development. He thought these came under two headings: a tendency to an over-regulationing of the profession, and a tendency to its commercialization. With regard to the first, while he recognized the need for all sorts of regulations and rules, he thought there was a danger that this might be carried too far. The doctor's job was to deal with the patient in front of him. His first concern was to help that man or woman in every way possible, even perhaps in ways not strictly medical. The more he was distracted from his job the worse would that job be done, so that the things the doctor had to do apart from that job were more or less troublesome or annoying, though as a rule he took them philosophically. Dr. Brackenbury instanced what took place at a birth. The doctor's job was to look after the mother and infant, but he also had to find out whether the birth had been notified by the father or the nurse, and, if not, it was his business to notify; he had perhaps to deal with a maternity claim for the mother; should something be wrong with the infant's eyes he had not only to attend to it, but to notify the fact to another authority; and should the mother develop a rise of temperature, even a moderate rise, the cause for which might be quite normal, such as the commencing of the breasts to function, he must make another notification, perhaps again to a different authority. All these things might be necessary, but they were no essential part of the doctor's primary object. He did not do them automatically. He had to stay to consider to which authority a particular notification should be sent, or whether the time allowed for making the notification had elapsed, and all this detracted to some extent from his fundamental service.

To this, in the insurance medical service, were to be added a whole lot of other regulations. He agreed that, if a man took ordinary care, he was not likely often to find himself in any difficulty. When addressing senior students about to enter the practice of the profession the speaker had found them rather oppressed by the pitfalls of insurance practice from this point of view, and he had reassured them by pointing out that there were laws in this country against murder, yet though every one of us was a potential murderer, no man of sound mind spent his time thinking about those laws and how he could manage to avoid transgressing them. The insurance doctor could work for quite a long time without any particular attention to the exact bearing of the terms of service, but every now and then the very thing happened to provide against which the regulations were framed, and in order to act properly in that contingency he would find it necessary to fill up certain forms, send in certain claims, and so forth. The speaker's submission was that there was a real danger that things of this kind, trifling in themselves, but engaging the doctor's thoughts even when he was not actually doing anything in connexion with them, might become too onerous, and so detract from the efficiency of the actual job. If, therefore, in certification rules for example, some things could be set out in general terms instead of with meticulous precision, so much the better. He mentioned as an example the convalescent certificate, in which more elasticity might well be allowed. Another matter was the necessity for recording all attendances and visits on the cards. There were certain cases, no doubt, in which it was desirable that such records should be kept, also there were certain doctors with the statistical habit of mind who delighted in doing this kind of thing, but on the whole this particular requirement became a nuisance against which the Panel Conference annually protested, and in extremely chronic cases, where a patient simply came periodically for his certificate, the procedure of searching out that card and making the entry became not far short of an absurdity.

Finally, there was a tendency to commercialization—not exactly a suitable word to cover what he had in mind—to be combated. If this was allowed to spread to any large extent it would ruin the medical profession as a profession. He instanced four ways in which, he thought, the danger arose. The first was with regard to doctors' lists. There was a danger in having too large lists. Allowing for the exceptional case (and, of course, in prescribing an absolute maximum this always had to be allowed for), he believed the present maximum too high for the ordinary circumstances of practice. It was true that there were practitioners who were extraordinarily quick-minded, methodical, and energetic, who laid themselves out to deal with large numbers of insured persons and practically no others. These men could manage a list of 2,500. But there were other doctors, not quite of that type, and who had other work to do, for whom, he thought, that number was too large. Nor was he specially concerned for the exceptional case, because he deprecated the devotion of a practitioner almost exclusively to insurance work. A man was likely to be a better doctor if he did not confine himself entirely to one type of practice, and did not cut away, say, that very important class of patients comprising persons under 16 years of age.

Another direction in which commercialization appeared was in connexion with lock-up surgeries. He admitted that there were circumstances in which a lock-up surgery could not be helped, and was, indeed, a boon to patients. But the tendency to lock-up surgeries was in most cases undesirable. He did not think that any family doctor could really do his full duty to his patients unless he lived among them and knew their circumstances and their lives. Again, there was the question of assistants. The taking of an assistant was in itself an eminently desirable thing. It was an excellent way in which the newly qualified practitioner might be introduced into the profession. It must not be imagined that a doctor's request for permission to employ an assistant, when he had not got the maximum number of insured persons on his list, was due to some sinister motive—quite the contrary; but Dr. Brackenbury agreed that if a man had a lock-up surgery and a small list, and asked for an assistant, while everything might be quite straightforward, inquiries ought to be made, lest there be any intention to exploit the lock-up surgery as a branch practice for the mere purpose of reaping an income over and above what had to be paid to the assistant to do the work. Following from this there were cases here and there in which a doctor or firm of doctors, or even a commercial company, ran practices for purely business purposes. A man might start a practice, put in a cheap assistant, get a nucleus of insured persons and others attached, advertise the practice by such methods as were available without running the risk of disciplinary action, and presently sell the practice to the assistant; and he might repeat this operation in various places, himself running the whole thing as a business proposition, living upon the creation of practices and the selling of them at an appropriate moment. It was largely because of the facilities offered by the Insurance Act that that insidious sort of commercialization was made more easy, and it was a thing which all who had the interests of the medical profession at heart, and the interests of the insurance medical service, must endeavour to stop.

In proposing a vote of thanks to Dr. Brackenbury, Mr. CANTER, general secretary of the association, said that Dr. Brackenbury, more than any man, was responsible for the better atmosphere which now existed between approved societies and the medical profession. It was he who presided over a series of conferences, held at the old British Medical Association House, between representatives of both sides, and although some on the approved society side entered those conferences with the fixed intention of fighting the medical profession, they found their weapons blunted with Dr. Brackenbury in the chair. If any had come that evening intending to criticize, Dr. Brackenbury's candour must have disarmed them; but the speaker suggested that it was now the turn of the British Medical Association to invite a layman, representative of approved societies, to address a gathering of insurance practitioners.

British Medical Association.

CURRENT NOTES.

British Medical Bureau (The Scholastic, Clerical, and Medical Association, Ltd.).

In our last issue (p. 839) the attention of members was directed to the institution of the British Medical Bureau under an agreement with the old-established Scholastic, Clerical, and Medical Association, Ltd., which, since 1880, has been providing for the wants of medical practitioners, so far as transfer of practices and provision of partners, assistants, and locumtenents are concerned, with great acceptance to the profession. Its new name of "British Medical Bureau" is intended to emphasize the relations which it now has with the British Medical Association, and the fact that in future it will do its work in accordance with the general policy of the British Medical Association. It will be noted that members of the Association will have the advantage of a reduced scale of charges. The Association has always been able confidently to recommend this institution to its members as a result of much experience of its straightforward dealing, and can now do so with even more confidence than before, in view of the new relations that exist between the two bodies. The negotiations have been conducted by the Council of the British Medical Association with the approval of the Representative Body. An advertisement will be found at page 47 of this issue. All correspondence should be addressed to Mr. A. V. Storey, General Manager, British Medical Bureau, 12, Stratford Place, Oxford Street, W.1 (telegraphic address, "Triform Wesdo, London"; telephone, Mayfair 1782 and 1783).

Some Work of the Committees.

During the past fortnight the Psycho-Analysis Committee and a number of subcommittees have held meetings. The work of the Psycho-Analysis Committee, while it entails frequent meetings, does not lend itself to occasional comment. Among the subcommittees two, the Prescribing Subcommittee and the Hospitals Subcommittee, have been specially appointed this session to consider particular problems. The Prescribing Subcommittee was appointed by the Insurance Acts Committee to consider what steps could most profitably be taken to draw the attention of insurance practitioners to the necessity for care in prescribing. At its first meeting on October 26th it approved, for submission to the parent committee, a circular dealing with this subject addressed to Panel Committees, and a memorandum on prescribing for issue to individual insurance practitioners. The Hospitals Subcommittee has the task of "considering the co-ordination of hospital provision, in view of the letter of January 1st, 1927, sent by the British Hospitals Association to the Ministry of Health and the reply of the Ministry of Health thereto, dated February 15th, 1927," together with certain other matters bearing upon the hospital policy of the Association. Among these is the question of the formulation of a middle class hospital policy. The Propaganda Subcommittee on November 2nd made its usual preliminary review of the work accomplished during the past and plans for the present session. The Library Subcommittee has under consideration the development of the Association's Library and the possibility of some scheme of co-operation with other medical libraries in London. The work of the Joint Research Subcommittee is making good progress. At a meeting on October 28th the subcommittee completed its scheme for the conduct of investigations into the treatment of varicose ulceration and gastro-enterostomy, and decided upon the terms of the questions to be addressed to practitioners engaging in the inquiries. These questions will be submitted for the approval of the Science Committee at its next meeting, and it is hoped that the two investigations may be set on foot very shortly, when full particulars will be published in the JOURNAL. The subcommittee has been fortunate in securing the help of Dr. A. P. Luff, who will assist in the collation and evaluation of the data obtained and in the general conduct of the research. The Maternity and Child Welfare Subcommittee on November 3rd considered the ante-natal record form issued by the Central Midwives Board to its midwives, and decided to represent to the Ministry of Health that it is undesirable to assign to midwives duties which can only be properly carried out by duly qualified medical practitioners. The subcommittee also had before it a resolution of the Representative Body with regard to ante-natal work, and proposes at its next meeting to consider a scheme that has been formulated in Kent for the provision of ante-natal examinations for all expectant mothers. On consideration of a project, put forward by the Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres, for the establishment of paying centres for better class mothers, it was decided to invite representatives of that association to meet the subcommittee and discuss the matter.

Association Notices.

BRANCH AND DIVISION MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH: NUNEATON AND TAMWORTH DIVISION.—An ordinary meeting of the Nuneaton and Tamworth Division will be held at the Tamworth General Hospital on Thursday, November 17th, at 3.30 p.m. Agenda: Inaugural address by the chairman, Dr. Ashworth. A special meeting will then be held to consider Dr. Jones's report as Representative in the Representative Body, and the question of adopting new Rules of Organization.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH: BOURNEMOUTH DIVISION.—A general meeting of the Bournemouth Division will be held in conjunction with the Bournemouth Legal Society, by their kind invitation, on Monday, November 21st, at the Alexandra Hall, St. Peter's Road, Bournemouth, at 8 p.m., when a discussion on "Should communications to a medical man be privileged in legal procedure, both civil and criminal," will take place. The two chief speakers for the legal society will be Mr. E. W. Marshall Harvey and Mr. W. E. D'Angibau, and for the Division Dr. E. K. Le Fleming and Dr. G. H. Morse. The subject will then be open for general discussion, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will be present and that a large number will take part in the debate. The legal society are kindly providing coffee. Members wishing to compete in the Treasurer's Cup golf competition are asked to send their names, stating their club handicap, to Dr. Graham-Jones, Stretton Court, Parkstone, by Saturday, November 19th. There will be an entrance fee of 2s. 6d. towards a prize for the winner of the Division stage of the competition.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH: EAST YORK DIVISION.—The East Yorkshire Division will hold a joint meeting with the Hull and District Society of Dental Surgeons for a discussion on focal sepsis in Hammond's Café on Friday, November 18th, at 8.45 p.m. The meeting will be preceded by an informal supper (price 3s.), commencing at 8 o'clock.

FIFE BRANCH.—A clinical meeting of the Fife Branch will be held in the Maternity Home, Townsend Crescent, Kirkcaldy, on Wednesday, November 23rd, at 3.30 p.m. Mr. Frank E. Jardine (Edinburgh) will address the meeting on the use of heliotherapy in surgical cases.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BRANCH: AYRSHIRE DIVISION.—A meeting of the Ayrshire Division will be held in the Infirmary, Kilmarnock, on Thursday, November 17th, at 3.30 p.m. A British Medical Association Lecture will be given by Professor D. P. D. Wilkie (Edinburgh), entitled "Some aspects of gall-bladder diseases," illustrated by lantern slides.

KENT BRANCH: ISLE OF THANET DIVISION.—A meeting of the Isle of Thanet Division will be held at the Queen's Highcliffe Hotel, Cliftonville, on Thursday, November 24th, at 8.45 p.m., when Dr. H. Raven will take the chair. Paper by Dr. H. Warwick Brown on nervous exhaustion, especially with reference to auto-intoxication as a factor in its production.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH: HYDE DIVISION.—The dance arranged by the Hyde Division, in aid of medical charities, will take place in the Hyde Town Hall on Thursday, November 17th, 8.30 p.m. to 1.30 a.m.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: CITY DIVISION.—A clinical meeting of the City Division, conducted by Dr. T. H. G. Shore, will be held to-day (Friday, November 11th), at 4.15 p.m., at the Metropolitan Hospital. Tea. The annual dinner of the Division will take place at the Trocadero Restaurant on Thursday, December 1st, at 7.45 p.m., when several eminent guests will be present, and there will be a good musical entertainment. Tickets (12s. 6d.) from the secretary.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: HAMPSTEAD DIVISION.—The following programme of meetings for the session 1927-28 has been arranged:

Dec. 8th.	Mr. A. E. Hayward Pinch: Radium Therapy.
Jan. 12th.	Dr. T. Izod Bennett: The Treatment of Gastric Ulcer.
Feb. 9th.	Dr. S. Monckton Copeman, F.R.S.: Inoperable Cancer.
March 8th.	Dr. G. A. Sutherland: The Heart in Acute Infections.
May 10th.	Discussion on the Annual Report of Council.
June 14th.	Annual Meeting of the Division: Election of Officers and Executive Committee.
July 12th.	Discussion on the Supplementary Report of Council. Instructions to Representatives at the Annual Representative Meeting.

All meetings, unless otherwise announced, will be held at the Hampstead General Hospital at 8.30 p.m. Members are invited to show or to report cases of interest at any of the meetings.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: LAMBETH AND SOUTHWARK DIVISION.—A meeting of the Lambeth and Southwark Division will be held at the Lambeth Carlton Club, Coldharbour Lane, on Tuesday, November 22nd, at 9 p.m. Agenda: Report by Dr. E. H. Jebens on Annual Representative Meeting at Edinburgh; paper by Mr. E. P. Brockman (Orthopaedic Department, St. Thomas's Hospital) on common disabilities of the foot and ankle.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: LEWISHAM DIVISION.—A meeting of the Lewisham Division will be held on Tuesday, November 15th, at 8.45 p.m. at the Town Hall, Catford, S.E.6, when Mr. Charles Beney, aural surgeon, St. John's Hospital, Lewisham, will give an address entitled "The urgency of the discharging ear," and will show clinical cases.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: MARYLEBONE DIVISION.—A meeting of the Marylebone Division will be held in the Council Chamber, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, on Wednesday, November 23rd, at 8.15 p.m. Agenda:—Discussion: The relation of voluntary and municipal hospitals to pending legislation; to be opened by Dr. Masterman, St. Giles Hospital, Camberwell. Speakers representing the views of private practitioners, voluntary hospital and municipal hospital staffs, Poor Law medical officers, medical officers of health, and members of hospital boards of management will take part. All members and non-members of the Association are welcomed.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH-WEST ESSEX DIVISION.—The South-West Essex Division will hold a reception and dance in the Town Hall, Leyton, on Thursday, November 24th. All medical practitioners, whether members of the British Medical Association or not, together with their friends, will be heartily welcome. The function will be in aid of medical charities. Tickets, 7s. 6d. single, 12s. 6d. double (lady and gentleman), can be obtained from the honorary secretary, or from members of the Executive Committee.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: TOWER HAMLETS DIVISION.—A meeting of the Tower Hamlets Division will be held at the British Red Cross Society's Clinic at 126, Brunswick Road, Poplar, E.14, on Wednesday, November 16th, at 4.15 p.m., when Dr. J. Sainsbury will give a lecture demonstration and exhibit clinical cases. Tea will be served at 4 p.m.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WESTMINSTER AND HOLBORN DIVISION.—A meeting of the Westminster and Holborn Division will be held at Romano's Restaurant, Strand, W.C., on Thursday, November 24th, at 8.15 p.m., preceded by a dinner at 7.30. Sir Crisp English will open a discussion on "Is it desirable that each member of the community should have an annual medical overhaul?"

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WILLESDEN DIVISION.—A meeting of the Willesden Division will be held at the Willesden General Hospital, Harlesden Road, N.W., on Wednesday, November 16th, at 9 p.m. Mr. H. S. Souttar will give an address on the rectum. The annual dinner of the Division will take place at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly, S.W., on Sunday, November 20th, at 7 p.m. Tickets, 10s. (excluding wine), can be obtained from Dr. W. Lock, 45, Church Road, N.W.10.

MIDLAND BRANCH: HOLLAND DIVISION.—A meeting of the Holland Division will be held at the Y.M.C.A. Institute, Spalding, on Friday, November 18th, at 3 p.m., when an address will be given by Dr. H. Bell Tawse (Nottingham), on some difficulties of the general practitioner with ear, nose, and throat cases, illustrated by lantern slides. Members of the neighbouring Division are cordially invited. The following further meetings of the Division have been arranged:

December. Dr. A. P. Beddard, physician to Guy's Hospital.
January. B.M.A. Lecture by Sir Humphry Rolleston, Bart.
February. Dr. J. Wilkie Scott (Nottingham).

NORFOLK BRANCH.—A meeting of the Norfolk Branch will be held at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, on Wednesday, November 30th, at 3.15 p.m., when Dr. H. J. Starling will read a paper on the diagnosis and treatment of hyperthyroidism (illustrated by lantern slides).

NORFOLK BRANCH: EAST NORFOLK DIVISION.—A general meeting of the East Norfolk Division will be held in the Medical Library, Norwich, on Wednesday, November 16th, at 3.15 p.m. Agenda: Report of Representative to Annual Representative Meeting, Edinburgh; Charities Fund; resignation of honorary secretary; election of honorary secretary. As the honorary secretary is leaving the Division he would be glad of as large an attendance as possible to enable him to see personally as many members as possible before his departure.

NORTHERN COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND BRANCH: BANFF, MORAY, AND NAIRN DIVISION.—A meeting of the Banff, Moray, and Nairn Division will be held at the Gordon Arms Hotel, Elgin, on Friday, November 18th, at 6 p.m., when Professor D. Murray Lyon, of the University of Edinburgh, will deliver a British Medical Association Lecture on asthma, with special reference to its etiology and treatment. The lecture is open to non-members of the Association, who will be cordially welcomed. The annual dinner will be held at the same hotel at 8 p.m.; tickets 8s. 6d. Members proposing to be present are asked to notify the Divisional Secretary, Dr. G. Smith Sowden (St. Giles, Little Cross, Elgin) as early as possible, and also to state if they intend to bring guests.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH: BISHOP AUCKLAND DIVISION.—A meeting of the Bishop Auckland Division will be held at the Cottage Hospital, Bishop Auckland, on Friday, November 25th, at 8 p.m. Dr. D. Wells Patterson will give a lecture on the earliest signs of disease.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH: DARLINGTON DIVISION.—A meeting of the Darlington Division will be held at the Hospital, Darlington, on Thursday, November 17th, at 8.30 p.m., when an address will be given by Professor Hugh Maclean on the subject of the medical treatment of gastric and duodenal ulcers. Members from neighbouring Divisions will be welcome.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH: NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND DIVISION.—The annual dinner of the North Northumberland Division is to be held on Thursday, November 17th, in the Plough Hotel, Alnwick, at 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m., when the chief guests will be Professor Stuart MacDonald and Dr. Frank Beaton of Ashington. Price of tickets (exclusive of wines) 10s. 6d.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH: STOCKTON DIVISION.—At the meeting of the Stockton Division to be held on Friday, November 18th, Dr. E. Farquhar Murray (Newcastle-on-Tyne) will read a paper on stillbirth.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: PORTSMOUTH DIVISION.—A clinical meeting of the Portsmouth Division will be held at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital (Out-patient Department), on Thursday, November 24th, 3 p.m., examination of patients; 3.45, tea by invitation of the medical and surgical staff of the hospital; 4 o'clock, discussion (in board room of hospital). Brief notes of cases should be sent to Mr. C. A. Scott Ridout, clinical secretary, not later than first post Monday, November 14th, so as to be included in the agenda. A dance in aid of the B.M.A. Charities Fund is being arranged for February, 1928.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: WINCHESTER DIVISION.—The next meeting of the Winchester Division will be held at the Royal Hants County Hospital on Wednesday, November 16th, at 3 p.m., at which Mr. B. H. Pidcock will read a paper on the treatment of otitis media in children. The chairman will provide tea about 3.30. Will members who intend to be present kindly notify the honorary secretary, Dr. W. A. Bruce Young, Everthorpe, Winchester, not later than Tuesday morning, November 15th.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: SWANSEA DIVISION.—A meeting of the Swansea Division will be held at the General Hospital, Swansea, on Thursday, November 24th, at 8.15 p.m. Discussion: Acute intestinal obstruction; to be opened by Dr. D. E. Evans (medical), Dr. A. F. Sladden (pathological), and Mr. Howell Gabe (surgical).

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.—An autumn intermediate meeting of the South-Western Branch will be held in the Library of the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter, on Tuesday, November 22nd, at 3.15 p.m. Lecture by Dr. James Mennell: The use and abuse of bone-setting and osteopathy. Tea will be provided.

SURREY BRANCH: CROYDON DIVISION.—A meeting of the Croydon Division will be held at the Croydon General Hospital on Tuesday, November 15th, at 8.30 p.m. Dr. S. F. St.J. Steadman will give a lantern lecture on cancer.

SUSSEX BRANCH: CHICHESTER AND WORTHING DIVISION.—The autumn meeting of the Chichester and Worthing Division will be held at Warne's Hotel, Worthing, on Wednesday, November 16th, at 7 p.m. As on former occasions, the Division will entertain guests representative of the public authorities in the area. It is hoped that members will bring their wives and other guests. Members of neighbouring Divisions (Horsham, Brighton, etc.), with their wives and guests, are cordially invited. The price of the dinner ticket will be 10s. 6d. (exclusive of wines, but including all gratuities). No subscription will be asked for the entertainment of the official guests. Members are asked to make application to the honorary secretary, Dr. Duncan D. Mackintosh, St. Elmo, Victoria Road, Worthing, for their dinner tickets, enclosing remittance.

SUSSEX BRANCH: HASTINGS DIVISION.—The annual dance arranged by the Hastings Division will take place on Friday, December 2nd, at the Albany Hotel, Hastings. Tickets, 7s. 6d. (including buffet supper). Members are requested to notify the honorary secretary, Dr. T. Reed, Hawkswood, London Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, as early as possible how many tickets they will require.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: TROWBRIDGE DIVISION.—The annual dinner of the Trowbridge Division will be held at the Angel Hotel, Chippenham, on Wednesday, November 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. E. W. Hey Groves will give an address after dinner. Tickets (exclusive of wines) 10s. 6d. Members proposing to attend are asked to notify the honorary secretary, Dr. A. D. Hamilton, Bridge Cottage, Lacock, by November 18th.

WILTSHIRE BRANCH.—A meeting of the Wiltshire Branch will be held at the County Mental Hospital, Devizes, on Wednesday, November 16th, at 3 p.m., when Mr. D. A. Mitchell (Bath) will read a paper entitled "Ante-natal work in general practice." It is hoped that all members of the Branch will make an effort to be present.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH: BRADFORD DIVISION.—The following programme of meetings has been arranged for the session 1927-28:

Nov. 23rd. Annual Dinner.
Dec. 13th. Combined Clinical Meeting with Medico-Chirurgical Society.
Jan. 26th. Annual Dance and Supper.
Feb. 22nd or 29th. British Medical Association Lecture.
Mar. 21st. Smoking Concert.
April 18th. Visit from Member of Headquarters' Staff.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH: HALIFAX DIVISION.—The annual dinner of the Halifax Division will be held at the White Swan Hotel, Halifax, on Thursday, November 17th, at 8 p.m. Tickets price 10s. 6d. Applications for tickets for members and guests, who need not be members of the medical profession, should be made immediately to Dr. W. O. Lodge, 3, Heath Hall, Halifax.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH: ROTHERHAM DIVISION.—The annual dinner of the Rotherham Division will be held at the Crown Hotel, Rotherham, on Friday, November 25th, at 7.15 for 7.30 p.m.; tickets 12s. 6d. (exclusive of wines). Members proposing to attend are asked to notify the honorary secretary, Dr. W. S. Wildman, Eastwood House, Rotherham, by November 20th, stating the number and names of guests. It will facilitate arrangements if tickets are paid for in advance.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH: SHEFFIELD DIVISION.—A general meeting of the Sheffield Division will be held on Friday, December 9th, at the University, Sheffield, at 8.30 p.m., when a British Medical Association Lecture will be delivered by Professor H. Beckwith Whitehouse, on practical applications of recent views on the menstrual functions.

SPA PRACTITIONERS' GROUP.

The formation of a Spa Practitioners' Group has been sanctioned by the Council of the Association. Membership of the group is open to those members of the Association who regularly prescribe the mineral waters or baths of the spas in which they reside, and those members of the Association who are on the staff of a hospital or clinic where the use of the local mineral waters is part of the routine treatment. A meeting of those eligible for membership will be held, to inaugurate the group, at the British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1, on Wednesday, November 23rd, at 12.30 p.m.

Meetings of Branches and Divisions.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH: WEST DORSET DIVISION.

A MEETING of the West Dorset Division was held at the Weymouth and District Hospital on October 18th.

Mr. GERARD-PEARSE showed a case of a small girl admitted to the hospital almost moribund and suffering from acute streptococcal peritonitis. The abdomen was opened and drained, and the appendix, which appeared normal, removed. The girl was now fit and well.

Dr. RODIER HEATH, who displayed some interesting radiographs of the chest in cases of early pulmonary tuberculosis, pointed out the distinctive diagnostic features.

After refreshments had been served, Dr. JOHN CARSWELL (Bournemouth) read a paper entitled "Language and mind," being reflections suggested by Sir Henry Head's treatise, *Aphasia and Kindred Disorders*. Dr. Carswell quoted freely, and pointed out the immense importance of Head's work. He suggested that it would have a great effect on the future of medicine, and that it deserved and would repay careful study.

The chairman, Dr. O. REES, thanked Dr. Carswell for his excellent paper and for travelling so far to deliver it.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH: EAST YORK DIVISION.

THE first sessional meeting of the East York Division took the form of a reception at Field's Restaurant, Hull. Refreshments were provided, also an attractive programme of music and recitations. A display of local medical antiquities and local medical literature attracted considerable attention from the guests.

Mr. THOMAS SHEPPARD gave a very entertaining address on the old Hull Medical School.

The ex-chairman, Dr. RITCHIE RODGER, in presenting the chairman's badge to Dr. Matheson Mackay, the present chairman, said that it was only Dr. Mackay's retiring nature which had prevented him being chairman previously. Dr. MACKAY, thanking Dr. Rodger on behalf of the Division for the gift, remarked that a badge was originally the mark of a servant as distinguished from a master; in that spirit he would wear it during his term of office as a servant of the Division.

The Ritchie Rodger golf cup was then presented to Mrs. McInnes, in the absence of Dr. McInnes, the winner. Mrs. McInnes expressed thanks on behalf of her husband.

There was a large attendance at the reception, to which all the medical practitioners of the area had been invited with their wives, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

KENT BRANCH: DOVER DIVISION.

A CLINICAL meeting of the Dover Division was held at the Victoria War Memorial Hospital, Deal, on October 21st. Dr. HALL showed a patient on whom a sleeve resection of the stomach had been performed for a growth, which, on microscopic examination by three pathologists, had proved to be sarcoma. He also showed a case of partial gastrectomy for carcinoma. Dr. BIRDWOOD showed a case of Mongolian imbecility, a case of achalasia of the oesophagus, a case of consolidated lung for diagnosis, and a case of large, hard calcareous fibroid of the uterus. Dr. DAVIES showed a case of partial main en griffe, which was thought to be functional. All the cases gave rise to considerable discussion. Dr. JORDAN, Dr. KIRK, Dr. MCCALL-SMITH, Dr. WESTLAKE, Dr. FRASER, and Dr. EGAN contributed to the discussions.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH-WEST ESSEX DIVISION.

A MEETING of the South-West Essex Division was held at Leyton on October 25th, when Dr. C. O. HAWTHORNE gave an illuminating lecture on "The *British Pharmacopoeia*: status and values." He thought his audience probably recalled dry lectures on materia medica, wherein the *British Pharmacopoeia* was frequently mentioned, and, remembering, wondered whether he could "make those dry bones live." The function of the *British Pharmacopoeia* to the medical profession was a limited and subordinate one, yet its position from the point of view of the safety of the public was predominant and supreme. It was compiled by order of the legislature, and its prime function was the standardization of medicines. Without the *British Pharmacopoeia* there would be no certainty that a preparation made by different firms would be of constant composition. "Tinct. opii, though grateful and soothing in London, might well be inefficacious in Birmingham, and poisonous in Aberdeen." When the General Medical Council, commanded by the legislature, set to work to compile the *British Pharmacopoeia*, it had to accept or reject candidates for admission according as they were in general use. This was done with the help of the pharmaceutical societies and by analysis of prescriptions. The resultant volume should not be treated as a collection of remedies of guaranteed efficacy. It was no part of the work of the General Medical Council to decide what medical agents should or should not be used, but to set a standard for those substances in general use. In the discussion which followed some criticism was made of changes in some of the preparations in the 1914 *British Pharmacopoeia*. Dr. Hawthorne hoped that such criticisms would find their way to the appropriate committee, so that mistakes might be eliminated in the next edition.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: SWANSEA DIVISION.

THE annual dinner of the Swansea Division took place on October 13th, at the Hotel Metropole, Swansea. The chairman of the Division, Dr. DANIEL E. EVANS, was supported by leading representatives of the district, and the Medical Secretary, Dr. Alfred Cox, O.B.E., was the chief guest. Dr. Cox, who had a great reception and was accorded musical honours, gave an admirable instructive address. His Honour Judge FRANK DAVIES, in proposing the toast of "The British Medical Association," paid a special tribute to the practitioners of the district. Dr. A. F. SLADDEN proposed "The Chairman's health" in a graceful speech, and Dr. EVANS, in reply, said he felt proud of the honour accorded him and of the splendid support given him by his colleagues. Mr. DAVID DAVIES, J.P., editor of the *South Wales Daily Post*, made a most entertaining speech in proposing the toast of "Our Patients," and Dr. FREDERICK (ex-chairman of the Division) and Dr. J. M. MORRIS (president-elect of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch) were prevailed upon to reply. The toast of "Our Guests" was proposed by Dr. HORATIO E. RAWLINGS, one of the Division's most respected past chairmen, and excellent replies were made by the Rev. Chancellor WATKINS JONES and Mr. WALTER SAMMEL, barrister-at-law.

The growing strength of the Division is most satisfactory, and its chairman is to be congratulated on the splendid send-off given at the commencement of his term of office. The dinner was very well attended and augurs well for the coming session, with its interesting programme. During the dinner musical items were provided by an accomplished instrumental trio.

National Insurance.

INSURANCE ACTS COMMITTEE.

ELECTION OF DIRECT REPRESENTATIVES FOR 1927-28.

THE following direct representatives upon the Insurance Acts Committee were elected unopposed for the Groups mentioned:

Group C.
Dr. W. H. Smailes (Huddersfield).
Dr. E. Welch (Leeds).
Group D.
Dr. R. G. McGowan (Manchester).
Dr. H. F. Oldham, M.B.E. (Morecambe).
Dr. Frank Radcliffe (Oldham).
Group E.
Dr. J. C. Davies (Wrexham).
Dr. W. E. Thomas (Ystrad-Rhondda, Glam).
Group F.
Dr. C. J. Palmer (Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts).
Group H.
Mr. E. Lewis Lilley, F.R.C.S. (Leicester).
Group I.
Dr. John Steed (Staunton-on-Wye).
Group J.
Dr. D. G. Greenfield (Rushden, Northants).
Group L.
Dr. H. C. Jonas (Barnstaple).
Group N.
Dr. C. H. Panting (Leyton).
Dr. H. Rose (Wendover, Bucks).
Group O.
Dr. H. J. Cardale (London).
Dr. E. A. Gregg (London).

In the contested Groups—namely, A, B, G, K, and M—the results were as follows, the votes being counted upon the single transferable vote system and the counting verified by the Proportional Representation Society:

Group A.
Dr. D. Elliot Dickson (Lockgelly, Fife). *Elected.*
Dr. J. G. McCutcheon (Glasgow). *Elected.*
Dr. W. R. Martine (Haddington).
Dr. John Orr (Edinburgh).
Dr. D. Lyon Stevenson (Larkhall).
Dr. James Wilson (Irvine, Ayrshire).

Group B.
Dr. R. H. Dix (Sunderland). *Elected.*
Dr. J. L. Speirs (Gateshead).
Group G.
Dr. G. L. Lefevre (Longton, Staffs). *Elected.*
Dr. J. A. Ainscow (Birmingham)
Group K.
Dr. Thomas MacCarthy (Sherborne, Dorset). *Elected.*
Dr. J. Lockhart Livingston (Hursley).
Group M.
Dr. J. J. Day (Canterbury). *Elected.*
Dr. E. R. Fothergill (Hove). *Elected.*
Dr. P. V. Fry (East Molesey).

Scottish Subcommittee.

Contests took place in connexion with the election of the eight members of this subcommittee by the members of Scottish Panel Committees—four by County Panel Committees and four by Burgh Panel Committees—with the following result:

County Panel Committees.
Dr. R. Bruce, D.S.O. (Cults, Aberdeenshire). *Elected.*
Dr. J. W. Little (Newmains, Lanarks). *Elected.*
Dr. W. R. Martine (Weston, Haddington). *Elected.*
Dr. James Wilson (Irvine, Ayrshire). *Elected.*
Dr. D. MacDiarmid (Kippen, Stirlings).

(*Note.*—Dr. D. E. Dickson (Lochgelly, Fife), who was also a candidate, automatically became a member of the subcommittee by reason of his election to the Insurance Acts Committee.

Burgh Panel Committees.
Dr. W. Lawson (Glasgow). *Elected.*
Dr. G. W. Miller, D.S.O. (Dundee). *Elected.*
Dr. John Orr (Edinburgh). *Elected.*
Dr. James Todd (Glasgow). *Elected.*
Dr. Ann M. Watson (Aberdeen).

ALFRED COX, *Medical Secretary.*

LONDON INSURANCE COMMITTEE.

The Farming Out of Insurance Practice.

AT the meeting of the London Insurance Committee, on October 27th, a report was received on a case which had been before the Committee on previous occasions, relating to the alleged failure of a practitioner to comply with his obligations to provide treatment personally for his insured patients. Of the 3,350 prescriptions issued from this practice in three months, 3,291 were signed by his assistant. The Committee had decided to censure the practitioner and to draw the attention of the Ministry to the case. The Ministry, however, while agreeing that it was very undesirable that an insurance practice should be conducted on these lines, held that there had been no breach, because the practitioner's obligation to give personal service was qualified by the provision that treatment might at any time be given by an assistant, provided reasonable steps were taken to secure continuity of treatment, and that if a patient demanded treatment from the practitioner personally the practitioner must comply; there was no evidence of absence of continuity in this case or that any patient had unsuccessfully demanded personal service. The Committee thereupon by deputation, with some members of the Panel Committee, put the case before the officials of the Ministry. It was pointed out that both Committees were in accord as to the employment of assistants, holding that this furnished a valuable training ground for a young practitioner, but the "farming out" of a practice, which meant that the whole or the greater part of the work was delegated to the assistant, destroyed part of the object which it was desired to secure, since the assistant would be deprived of the supervision of his principal. It was also pointed out that the object of the provision in the terms of service just cited was simply to provide a safeguard for the patient, and was not intended to apply to a practice *en bloc*. No report was given as to what answer, if any, the Ministry made to these contentions, but on the point made by the Committee, that it customarily gave permission for the employment of an assistant for a stated period, which was renewable, and that it might properly refuse to renew its consent in a particular case, the Ministry was unable to say that, the Committee's consent having once been given, it could not be revoked, holding that this was purely a question of the legal construction of the Regulations.

Appeals to the Ministry.

In a case in which there was a charge by an approved society of negligence in certification, the Medical Service Subcommittee had come to the conclusion that the allegation was not proved, but the full Committee had reversed this finding, and decided to caution the practitioner. The practitioner thereupon appealed to the Ministry of Health, which allowed the appeal and directed the Committee to pay the costs incurred by the appellant. One point in the case, which turned upon the practitioner's statement that the insured person was "incapable of work," was that the practitioner considered this phrase to refer to the work to which the man was accustomed (driving a motor omnibus), and not to any other work, and this view appeared to be upheld by the Ministry, which stated: "We think that the appellant had sufficient grounds for forming the opinion that at the relevant times the insured person was 'incapable of work,' and for certifying to that effect, and, therefore, that his appeal succeeds."

Four practitioners who failed to furnish to the Committee promptly forms of medical record in respect of insured persons who had been transferred from their lists were fined by the Minister £5 each, another was fined £3, and another £2.

LONDON PANEL COMMITTEE.

AT a meeting of the London Panel Committee on October 25th, with Dr. H. J. CARDALE in the chair, Dr. T. J. Ryan was appointed a member of the Committee to fill a vacancy in the representation of Stoke Newington. The resignation of Mr. A. E. Webb-Johnson, representing the consulting staffs of medical schools, owing to his inability to attend the meetings, was accepted. The chairman drew attention to the Williams-Freeman presentation fund, stating that, although the work done for rural practitioners scarcely came within the purview of the London Committee, those who had worked on the Insurance Acts Committee and other bodies with Dr. Williams-Freeman realized how much he had done for his brethren in the country, and it might be that some London practitioners would like to join in the tribute that was being paid to him.

The Responsibilities of Pharmacists.

The Committee debated two cases of inaccurate dispensing which, with others, had been sent from the Insurance Committee for observations. In these cases the Pharmacy Subcommittee reported that the inaccuracies of the pharmacists were caused by a particular drug being over strength when supplied by the wholesale firm with whom they dealt, and in these circumstances the subcommittee recommended that the facts did not warrant the chemists being penalized. Dr. Cardale, from the chair, objected to this finding, pointing out that nothing should be done to whittle away the responsibility of the chemists, and that if they had been let down by the wholesale firm they had their remedy. Dr. A. F. Heald said that in this case his sympathies went out to the chemists; the wholesale house was wholly at fault. The chemists had the preparation sent down in bulk, diluted it, and dispensed it, and there their responsibility ended. Dr. V. S. Partridge said that it was admitted that the mistake was that of the wholesaler. This was a case in which, if it had been a sale over the counter to a purchaser, no conviction under the Adulteration Acts would have been registered against the chemist, who would have been able to plead warranty; but no amount of warranty was any defence before the Insurance Committee. The Panel Committee, however, decided not to express any opinion that chemists in these circumstances should not be penalized.

Graduation of Medicine Containers.

The chairman stated that the London Insurance Committee had now passed a resolution that all medicine containers supplied by those conveying drugs and appliances to the insured should be graduated, and the Minister of Health had been asked to consider the insertion of an appropriate clause in the terms of service. This matter was one on which the Panel Committee had continually insisted, and it was gratifying that, in spite of strong opposition from the chemists, the Insurance Committee had now come round to this point of view.

AT the annual meeting of the Reading Insurance Committee, held on Friday last, Dr. G. H. R. Holden was elected chairman for the ensuing year.

Correspondence.

Ophthalmic Clinics for Insured Persons.

SIR,—I am surprised that the question of establishing ophthalmic clinics for insured persons has been allowed to pass unchallenged by ophthalmic surgeons.

I see the remuneration suggested works out at about 8s. 4d. per case, and for this one would have in the great majority of cases to see the patients again for a post-mydriatic test.

If the big societies cannot afford to send all their cases to ophthalmic surgeons it would be far better, in my opinion, to carry on with the present arrangement until they can afford to do so. There should also be some method devised so that a general practitioner can send urgent cases, such as foreign bodies, corneal ulcers, acute iritis, glaucoma, etc., and fundus cases for examination.

It might also be pointed out to the big societies that if straightforward refraction cases can easily be dealt with by an optician, why is it that so many of these cases come to hospital to have their eyes tested?

Those of us who have had experience of working in clinics know that they would be neither for the benefit of the patients nor of the ophthalmic surgeons. Let us by every means in our power preserve the principle of private practice.—I am, etc.,

October 28th. OPHTHALMIC SURGEON.

THE Home Secretary gives notice that he has withdrawn from Dr. Tyler Pleydell Carter of Chippenham, Wilts, the authorizations granted by the Regulations made under the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1920, to duly qualified medical practitioners to be in possession of and supply raw opium and the drugs to which Part III of the Act applies, and has also directed that the exception in Regulation 4 of the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1921, which permits dangerous drugs to be supplied on a prescription given by a medical practitioner, shall not apply in respect of prescriptions given by Dr. Carter. Any person supplying Dr. Carter with raw opium or any of the drugs to which Part III of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1920, applies, and any person supplying the drugs on a prescription signed by Dr. Carter, will be committing an offence against the Acts.

Naval and Military Appointments.

ROYAL NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Surgeon Commanders H. W. Fitzroy-Williams to the *Egmont*; P. M. Rivaz to the *Barham*; W. H. Edgar to the *Vivid* for the *Rodney* and on commissioning; C. V. Griffiths, D.S.O., to the *Pembroke* for R.N. Barracks, Chatham; C. G. Sprague to the *Ark Royal*; H. E. Perkins to the *Constance* and to the *Constance* on commissioning for trials; R. Buddle, O.B.E., to the *Tamar* for Singapore Naval Base in continuation and as Specialist in Bacteriology; C. V. Griffiths, D.S.O., to the *Resolution* on recommissioning.

Surgeon Lieutenant Commander A. G. McKee to be Surgeon Commander.

Surgeon Lieutenant Commanders W. J. Colborne to return home on arrival of the *Maine* at Malta; A. W. McRorie to the *Ganges* for R.N. Sick Quarters, Shotley (amended orders).

Surgeon Lieutenants G. Rorison to the *Barham* on transfer, appointment to the *Warspite* cancelled; J. J. Keevil to the *Warspite* on transfer; R. W. Higgins and J. G. Holmes to return home on arrival of the *Maine* at Malta; E. R. Sorley to the *Centurion* on commissioning for trials.

Surgeon Lieutenants (short service) A. L. McDonnell and H. W. Strong transferred to the permanent list.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Major R. G. S. Gregg retires on retired pay, September 10th, 1927, and is granted the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel (substituted for notification in the *London Gazette*, August 16th, 1927).

Major J. M. Pinkerton, M.C., to be temporary Captain and temporarily relinquishes the rank of Major.

The following Captains to be Majors: D. J. MacDougall, M.C. (prov.), W. H. A. D. Sutton (prov.), and R. S. Dickie.

Lieutenant (on probation) P. G. Bentlif, from the seconded list, is restored to the establishment.

Temporary Lieutenant J. W. Dowzer relinquishes his commission.

S. M. Burrows to be temporary Lieutenant.

Lieutenant (on probation) W. F. Lane is seconded under the provisions of Article 205, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, 1926.

Lieutenant (on probation) E. W. Hayward, from the seconded list, is restored to the establishment, July 29th, 1927, with precedence next below F. P. M. Anderson (substituted for notification in the *London Gazette*, August 18th, 1927).

Lieutenant T. F. M. Woods is seconded under the provisions of Article 205, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, 1926.

ROYAL AIR FORCE MEDICAL SERVICE.

Squadron Leaders W. F. Wilson, M.C., to Headquarters, Middle East; A. E. Barr-Sim to R.A.F. Depot, Uxbridge.

Flight Lieutenant J. D. Leaby, M.C., to Headquarters, Air Defence of Great Britain, Uxbridge.

Flying Officers to be Flight Lieutenants: G. M. Anderson and B. L. Edwards.

Flying Officers L. Freeman to No. 28 Squadron, Catterick; J. M. Ritchie to No. 2 Flying Training School, Digby; R. G. Freeman to R.A.F. Depot, Uxbridge, instead of to No. 26 Squadron as previously notified.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

The services of Captain Salamat Ullah, M.C., are placed permanently at the disposal of the Government of the United Provinces for employment in the Jail Department.

Major L. A. P. Anderson, an officer of the Medical Research Department, is appointed to officiate as Assistant Director, Central Research Institute, Kasauli.

Major A. Seddon is transferred to the temporary non-effective list.

Lieut.-Colonel N. M. Wilson, O.B.E., Civil Surgeon, Simla West, is granted leave on average pay for six weeks, combined with study leave for three months, from November 4th.

Lieut.-Colonel J. M. A. Macmillan, Civil Surgeon, Simla East, is appointed to hold charge of the duties of the Civil Surgeon, Simla West, in addition to his own, during the absence on leave of Lieut.-Colonel N. M. Wilson, O.B.E.

The services of Major M. D. Wadia are placed permanently at the disposal of the Government of the Punjab.

The provisional promotions of the following officers to the rank of Captain are confirmed, subject to His Majesty's approval: J. S. Riddle, S. D. Gupta, D. MacD. Fraser, J. C. Drummond, and J. E. Gray.

COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Dr. J. D. Grierson appointed Surgical Specialist, Public Hospital, Georgetown, British Guiana. Drs B. G. T. Elmes and A. J. Murray appointed Medical Officers, Nigeria. Dr. H. M. Nevin appointed Medical Officer, Malayan Medical Service. Dr. H. M. Newport, Senior Medical Officer, Nigeria, has retired on pension. Drs. G. V. Fiddian and R. K. Phillips appointed Medical Officers, Nigeria. Dr. G. W. St.C. Ramsay appointed Pathologist, Nigeria. Dr. A. G. Francis appointed Government Medical Officer, Trinidad. Dr. C. A. Hoare appointed Protozoologist, Medical Department, Uganda. Dr. J. M. Gray appointed Medical Officer, Holma, Uganda. Drs. J. H. Neill, R. G. Griffin, E. P. Freeman, *M.C.*, and K. Lumsden appointed District Medical Officers, Masaka, Toro, Madi, and Lake Area (Uganda) respectively. Dr. A. Crawford, Medical Officer of Health, Nigeria, has been invalided from the Service.

VACANCIES.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND EAR AND THROAT HOSPITAL.—Assistant Surgeon.

BRADFORD: ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Honorary Physician.

BRIGHTON: NEW SUSSEX HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.—(1) Honorary Assistant. (2) Honorary Anaesthetist. Women.

BRISTOL GENERAL HOSPITAL.—(1) Honorary Assistant Physician. (2) Honorary Surgical Registrar.

CAIRO: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.—Assistant Woman Medical Inspector of Girls' School. Salary at the rate of £E.480 per annum.

CARDIFF: UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology. Salary £1,500 per annum.

CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, S.W.3.—Junior House-Surgeon (male). Salary at the rate of £100 per annum.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.—House-Physician at Wrenbury Hall Tuberculosis Training Colony. Salary £250 per annum.

CHESTERFIELD AND NORTH DERBYSHIRE ROYAL HOSPITAL.—Resident Surgical Officer. Salary at the rate of £300 per annum.

CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE HEART AND LUNGS, Victoria Park, E.2.—(1) Resident Medical Officer. (2) House-Physician. Males. Salary at the rate of £250 and £100 per annum respectively.

CITY OF LONDON MATERNITY HOSPITAL, City Road, E.C.1.—(1) Obstetric Surgeon to In-patients. (2) Assistant Obstetric Surgeon.

DURHAM COUNTY AND SUNDERLAND EYE INFIRMARY.—Locum for four weeks.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Shadwell, E.1.—(1) Physician. (2) Assistant Physician.

ELIZABETH GARRETT ANDERSON HOSPITAL, 144, Euston Road, N.W.1.—(1) House-Physician. (2) Obstetric Assistant. (3) Two House-Surgeons. (4) Clinical Assistants in the Out-patient and Throat and Ear Departments. (Females.) Salary for (1), (2), and (3) at the rate of £50 per annum.

HAMPSTEAD GENERAL AND NORTH-WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Haverstock Hill, N.W.3.—House-Surgeon. Salary at the rate of £100 per annum.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.—Medical Registrar in Out-patient Department. Salary £250 per annum.

INFANTS HOSPITAL, Vincent Square, S.W.—(1) Assistant Surgeon. (2) Medical Registrar; salary £120 per annum.

LIVERPOOL AND SAMARITAN HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.—House-Surgeon. Remuneration at the rate of £100 per annum.

LONDON JEWISH HOSPITAL, Stepney Green, E.1.—(1) Resident Medical Officer. (2) Junior Resident Medical Officer. Salary at the rate of £150 and £100 per annum respectively.

MALAYAN MEDICAL SERVICE.—Medical Inspectors (male) of Schools. Salary £700 per annum, rising to £1,120, with temporary allowance of 10 per cent. of salary to unmarried officers, and 20 per cent. to married officers.

MANCHESTER: ANCOATS HOSPITAL.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary at the rate of £100 per annum.

MANCHESTER: ST. MARY'S HOSPITALS.—Honorary Consulting Physician for Women.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL, W.1.—(1) Resident Medical Officer. (2) Two Surgical Registrars. (3) Medical Registrar. (4) Assistant Radiologist. Salary for (1) £400, (2) and (3) £300, and for (4) £150 per annum.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE: ROYAL VICTORIA INFIRMARY.—Honorary Physician.

NEW ZEALAND RESEARCH LABORATORIES.—Dairy Research Bacteriologist. Salary £850 per annum, rising to £900.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH HOSPITAL, Norwich.—Casualty Officer and House-Surgeon (male). Salary £120 per annum.

POPLAR HOSPITAL FOR ACCIDENTS, E.14.—Second Resident Officer. Salary at the rate of £175 per annum.

PRINCE OF WALES'S GENERAL HOSPITAL, Tottenham.—Honorary Clinical Assistants.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND.—Clinical Physician at Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1.—(1) Surgical Registrar. (2) Medical Registrar. (3) Gynaecological Registrar. (4) House-Surgeon. (5) Second House-Surgeon. (6) Third House-Surgeon. (7) First House-Physician. (8) Gynaecological House-Surgeon. Salary for (1) £200, for (2) and (3) £100 per annum. (9) Two Women Assistants in the Venereal Diseases Department (female); salary for (9) £500 per annum.

ROYAL NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Holloway Road, N.7.—(1) Out-patient Medical Officer. (2) House-Surgeon. (3) Assistant Radiologist. Salary at the rate of £125, £70, and £140 per annum respectively.

ROYAL WATERLOO HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Waterloo Road, S.E.1.—(1) House-Physician (male); salary at the rate of £100 per annum. (2) Anaesthetist; honorarium at the rate of £25 per annum.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY.—Medical Superintendent at the Dreadnought Hospital, Greenwich. Salary £300, rising to £350 and £400 if re-elected.

SOUTHAMPTON: ROYAL SOUTH HANTS AND SOUTHAMPTON HOSPITAL.—Casualty Officer. Salary at the rate of £120 per annum for eight months, and £130 per annum on appointment as Junior House-Surgeon.

STAFFORDSHIRE MENTAL HOSPITAL, Cheddleton.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary £350 per annum.

STEPNEY PARISH.—(1) Resident Assistant Medical Officer at St. Peter's (Whitechapel) Hospital. (2) Resident Assistant Medical Officer at the St. George-in-the-East Hospital. Salary £450 per annum each.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL.—Assistant Medical Officers (male). Salary £600 per annum, rising to £700.

SWANSEA HOSPITAL.—House-Surgeon for the Ophthalmic and Aural Departments (male, unmarried). Salary £150 to £200 per annum, according to experience.

SWINDON: VICTORIA HOSPITAL.—Resident Medical Officer (male). Salary £100 per annum.

TIPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.—Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer. Salary £800 per annum.

WARWICK COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL, Hatton.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary £300 per annum.

CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS.—The following vacant appointments for Certifying Factory Surgeons are announced: Southampton (Hampshire), Wolston (Warwickshire). Applications to the Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office, Whitehall, S.W.1.

MEDICAL REFEREE UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1925, for the Districts of Grays Thurrock and Southend County Courts (Circuit No. 38). Applications to the Private Secretary, Home Office, Whitehall, S.W.1, by November 26th.

This list of vacancies is compiled from our advertisement columns, where full particulars will be found. To ensure notice in this column advertisements must be received not later than the first post on Tuesday morning.

APPOINTMENTS.

BOYD, William, M.B., Ch.B.Ed., D.P.M., Medical Superintendent, Fife and Kinross Asylum, Cupar.

KELLY, A. Claude, M.D.Manch., Visiting Anaesthetist to the Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Grangethorpe, Wilmslow Road, Manchester.

STOESSIGER, Hilda N., M.D., M.R.C.P., Honorary Medical Registrar at the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea.

MAGILL, J., M.D., D.P.H., Honorary Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon, North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent.

MCLAREN, Miss Margaret E., M.B., Ch.B.Glas., Assistant Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Smethwick.

CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS.—Dr. A. Blair for the Breage District, co. Cornwall; D. Campbell, M.B., Ch.B.Aber., for the Ellon District, co. Aberdeen; W. E. Ivers, L.M.S.S.A.Lond., for the St. Mary's District, Isles of Scilly.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES AND LECTURES.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.

War Section.—Mon., 5 p.m., Major E. C. Lambkin, R.A.M.C.: Recent Investigations into the Treatment of Gonorrhoea.

General Meeting of Fellows.—Tues., 5.30 p.m., Ballot for Fellowship.

Section of Pathology.—Tues., 8.30 p.m., Professor J. McIntosh: The Histology of Some Virus Infections of the Central Nervous System; Professor C. A. Pannett: Some Experiments on Tissue Survival; Dr. I. H. Maclean: The Mechanism of Experimental Leucocytosis. Demonstrations:—Dr. J. M. Ross: (1) Bilateral Thrombosis of the Renal Vessels, (2) Ureteritis Hypertrophica Cystica; Dr. J. W. Orr: Sebaceous Glands in the Oesophagus.

Annual Dinner of the Society.—Wed., Hotel Victoria, 7.30 for 8 p.m.

Section of Dermatology.—Thurs., 4 p.m., Cases.

Sections of Electro-Therapeutics, Medicine, Surgery, and Orthopaedics.—Thurs., 8.30 p.m., Special Discussion: Radiological Pitfalls. Openers: Dr. A. E. Barclay (Electro-Therapeutics), Dr. E. I. Spriggs (Medicine), Mr. Max Page (Surgery), Mr. H. A. T. Fairbank (Orthopaedics); Dr. A. F. Hurst and Mr. A. C. Jordan will also speak.

Section of Obstetrics.—Fri., 8 p.m., Mr. J. P. Hedley: Case of Papilliferous Ovarian Cysts; Dr. J. S. Fairbairn and Mr. T. H. Sims: Pseudomyxoma peritonei associated with Ruptured Ovarian Cyst and Appendicular Disease; Mr. A. R. Walker: Diabetes Mellitus and Pregnancy.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.—Tues., 5 p.m., Mitchell Lecture by Dr. P. C. Varrier-Jones: Village Settlements for the Tuberculous. At Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, W.1: Wed., 5 p.m., Lloyd-Roberts Lecture by the Right Hon. Lord Hewart: Criminal Law and Insanity.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—Laboratory Meeting at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Endsleigh Gardens, Thurs., 8.15 p.m. Demonstrations: Dr. Mary V. F. Beattie, Major H. C. Brown, Dr. P. A. Buxton, Dr. A. Castellani, Captain W. Dye, Dr. H. M. Hanschell, Colonel S. P. James, Colonel Clayton Lane, Dr. P. H. Manson-Bahr, Dr. N. A. Dyce Sharp, Drs. J. Gordon Thomson and A. Robertson, Dr. V. B. Wigglesworth, and Dr. C. M. Wenyon.

CHELSEA CLINICAL SOCIETY, Hotel Rembrandt, Thurloe Place, S.W.—Tues., 8.30 p.m., Discussion: Focal Sepsis; to be opened by Sir William H. Willcox and Dr. William Hunter. Dinner at 7.30 p.m.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY, Paddington Town Hall.—Thurs., 8.30 p.m., Discussion: The Etiology and Treatment of Anterior Poliomyelitis; to be opened by Dr. S. A. Kinnier Wilson, followed by Dr. James Collier.

LONDON CLINICAL SOCIETY.—At London Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road: Thurs., 9 p.m., Postponed Discussion: Dyspepsia. Openers: Dr. John Ryle and Mr. Herbert Paterson. All medical practitioners are invited.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 11, Chandos Street, W.1.—Mon., 8 p.m., Clinical Evening.

SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH, 1, Upper Montague Street, W.C.1.—Fri., 5 p.m., Health Aspects of the Factories Bill.

TUBERCULOSIS SOCIETY.—At House of Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1: Fri., 8 p.m., Dr. G. T. Hebert: The Treatment of Tuberculosis Empyema by Replacement.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES.

FELLOWSHIP OF MEDICINE AND POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—Special Lecture at Medical Society, 11, Chandos Street, W.1, Mon., 5 p.m.: Treatment of Uterine Prolapse; no fee. *Hospital for Diseases of the Heart and Lungs*, Victoria Park, E.9: Wed., 10.30 a.m., Clinical Demonstration on the Pathology of Tuberculosis in the Laboratory and Museum. The whole hospital will be open to post-graduates all day; no fee. *London Temperance Hospital*, Hampstead Road, N.W.1: Thurs., 2 p.m., Clinical Demonstration in Surgery; no fee. *Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital*, City Road, E.C.: Clinical Demonstration in Ophthalmology, Wed., 1 p.m.; no fee. *Royal Waterloo Hospital*, Waterloo Road, S.E.1: Post-graduate Course in Medicine, Surgery, and Gynaecology, occupying afternoons and some mornings, with lectures and clinical demonstrations and operations; fee £3 3s. for a three weeks' course. *St. Peter's Hospital*, Henrietta Street, W.C.2: Post-graduate Course in Urology, occupying every afternoon, with lectures and demonstrations and operations; fee £5 5s. for two weeks' course. *National Hospital*, Queen Square, W.C.1: Special Post-graduate Course in Neurology. All information, syllabuses, and tickets from the Secretary, Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

CENTRAL LONDON THROAT, NOSE, AND EAR HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1.—Wed., 4 p.m., Annual Address on Observation.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.—Thurs., 4 p.m., Congenital Pyloric Stenosis.

LONDON SCHOOL OF DERMATOLOGY, St. John's Hospital, Leicester Square, W.C.2.—Tues., 5 p.m., Myotic Diseases. Thurs., 5 p.m., Pathology Demonstration.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL, Queen Square, W.C.1.—Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri., 2 p.m., Out-patient Clinics. Mon., 3.30 p.m., Diagnosis of Cerebral Tumours. Tues., 3.30 p.m., Disseminated Sclerosis. Thurs., 3.30 p.m., Disorders of Posture and Gait. Fri., 3.30 p.m., Surgery of the Brain. Operations: Tues. and Fri., 9 a.m.

NORTH-EAST LONDON POST-GRADUATE COLLEGE, Prince of Wales's General Hospital, Tottenham, N.15.—Mon., 2.30 p.m., Special Demonstration of Medical Cases; 2.30 to 5 p.m., Medical, Surgical, and Gynaecological Clinics; Operations. Tues., 2.30 to 5 p.m., Medical, Surgical, Throat, Nose, and Ear Clinics; Operations. Wed., 2.30 to 5 p.m., Medical, Skin, and Eye Clinics; Operations. Thurs., 11.30 a.m., Dental Clinics; 2.30 to 5 p.m., Medical, Surgical, and Ear, Nose, and Throat Clinics; Operations. Fri., 10.30 a.m, Throat, Nose, and Ear Clinics; 2 p.m., Special Demonstration of *X*-Ray Cases; 2.30 to 5 p.m., Surgical, Medical, and Children's Diseases Clinics; Operations.

ROYAL NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Holloway Road, N.—Tues., 3.15 p.m., Recent Work on Exophthalmic Goitre and Allied Disorders.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH, 37, Russell Square, W.C.1.—Wed., 4 p.m., The Milk Supply.

SOUTH-WEST LONDON POST-GRADUATE ASSOCIATION, St. James's Hospital, Ouseley Road, Balham, S.W.12.—Tues., 4 p.m., Clinical Demonstration of Gynaecological Cases.

WEST LONDON HOSPITAL POST-GRADUATE COLLEGE, Hammersmith, W.6.—Mon., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Genito-urinary Operations, Skin Department, Surgical Wards; 2 p.m., Surgical Wards, Gynaecological and Eye Departments. Tues., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Medical Ward Visit, Demonstrations in Venereal Diseases; 2 p.m., Medical Wards, Throat, Nose, and Ear Department. Wed., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Children's Medical Out-patients, Medical Wards, Demonstration in Medical Pathology; 2 p.m., Surgical Wards, Eye Department; 4.30 p.m., Special Lecture: Preservation of a Youthful Skin. Thurs., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Neurological Department, Demonstration of Fractures; 2 p.m., Eye and Genito-urinary Departments, Gynaecological Ward; 4.30 p.m., Special Lecture: Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer. Fri., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Gynaecological Operations, Dental, Skin, and Electrical Departments; 2 p.m., Throat, Nose, and Ear Department. Sat., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Bacterial Therapy Department, Children's Medical Department. Daily: Operations, Medical and Surgical Out-patients at 2 p.m.

JAMES MACKENZIE INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH, St. Andrews.—Tues., 4 p.m., Clinical Significance of Haematemesis.

GLASGOW POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—At Royal Infirmary: Wed., 4.15 p.m., Medical Cases.

MANCHESTER: ANCOATS HOSPITAL.—Thurs., 4.15 p.m., Medical Treatment of Peptic Ulcer.

MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Tues., 4.15 p.m., Diagnosis of Pulmonary Diseases. At Royal Residential Schools for the Deaf, Old Trafford: Fri., 4.15 p.m., Demonstration showing Physical and Mental Development of the Deaf Child.

SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY POST-GRADUATE CLINICS.—At Royal Hospital: Fri., 3.30 p.m., Differential Diagnosis of Facial Pain.

British Medical Association.

OFFICES, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W.C.1.

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IRISH MEDICAL SECRETARY: 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin. (Telegrams: Bacillus, Dublin. Tel.: 4737 Dublin.)

Diary of the Association.

NOVEMBER

11 Fri. London: Science Committee, 2 p.m.
London: Joint Science and Organization Committee, 4 p.m.

15 Tues. London: Ophthalmic Subcommittee. Meeting at Ministry of Health, 3 p.m.
Croydon Division: Croydon General Hospital. Dr. S. F. St.J. Steadman on Cancer, 8.30 p.m.
Lewisham Division: Town Hall, Catford, S.E.6. Mr. C. Beney on the Urgency of the Discharging Ear, 8.45 p.m.

16 Wed. London: Hospitals Committee, 2.15 p.m.
Chichester and Worthing Division: Warne's Hotel, 7 p.m.
East Norfolk Division: Medical Library, Norwich, 3.15 p.m.
Tower Hamlets Division: 126, Brunswick Road, Poplar, E.14. Lecture Demonstration by Dr. J. Sainsbury, 4.15 p.m.
Willesden Division: Willesden General Hospital. Mr. H. S. Souttar on the Rectum, 9 p.m.
Wiltshire Branch: County Mental Hospital, Devizes. Mr. D. A. Mitchell on Ante-Natal Work in General Practice, 3 p.m.
Winchester Division: Royal Hants County Hospital. Mr. B. H. Pidcock on the Treatment of Otitis Media in Children, 3 p.m.

17 Thurs. London: Insurance Acts Committee, 12 noon.
Ayrshire Division: Infirmary, Kilmarnock. B.M.A. Lecture by Professor D. P. D. Wilkie on Some Aspects of Gall-bladder Diseases, 3.30 p.m.
Darlington Division: Hospital, Darlington. Professor Hugh Maclean on Gastric and Duodenal Ulcers, 8.30 p.m.
Halifax Division: Annual Dinner, White Swan Hotel, Halifax, 8 p.m.
Hyde Division: Dance, Hyde Town Hall, 8.30 p.m.
North Northumberland Division: Annual Dinner, Plough Hotel, Alnwick, 7 p.m.
Nuneaton and Tamworth Division: Tamworth General Hospital, 3.30 p.m.

18 Fri. London: Lunacy Law and Administration Committee, 2.30 p.m.
Banff, Moray, and Nairn Division: Gordon Arms Hotel, Elgin. B.M.A. Lecture by Professor D. Murray Lyon on Asthma, 6 p.m. Annual Dinner, 8 p.m.
East York Division: Discussion on Focal Sepsis.
Holland Division: Y.M.C.A. Institute, Spalding. Mr. H. Bell Tawse on Difficulties of the General Practitioner with Ear, Nose, and Throat Cases, 3 p.m.
Stockton Division: Dr. E. Farquhar Murray on Stillbirth.

20 Sun. Willesden Division: Annual Dinner, Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly, S.W., 7 p.m.

21 Mon. Bournemouth Division: Alexandra Hall, St. Peter's Road, Bournemouth. Discussion on "Should Communications to a Medical Man be privileged in Legal Procedure?" 8 p.m.

22 Tues. London: Contract Practice Subcommittee, 2.30 p.m.
Lambeth and Southwark Division: Lambeth Carlton Club, Coldharbour Lane. Mr. E. P. Brockman on Disabilities of the Foot and Ankle, 9 p.m.
South-Western Branch: Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter. Dr. James Mennell on Bone-setting and Osteopathy, 3.15 p.m.

23 Wed. London: Puerperal Morbidity and Mortality Committee, 2.30 p.m.
Bradford Division: Annual Dinner.
Croydon Division: Croydon General Hospital. Lecture Demonstration by Dr. F. Hernaman-Johnson on Treatment by Deep *X*-Ray Therapy, 4 p.m.
Fife Branch: Maternity Home, Townsend Crescent, Kirkcaldy. Mr. F. E. Jardine on Heliotherapy in Surgical Cases, 3.30 p.m.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcement of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 9s., which sum should be forwarded with the notice not later than the first post on Tuesday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

BIRTH.

GORDON.—At 142, St. Clair Street, Kirkcaldy, Fife, on November 5th, to Dr. and Mrs. E. S. Gordon, a son.

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